THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU): (a) In Gujarat. 152 principal market yards and 208 sub-market yards were in operation till 31-3-1992. Generally, each principal market yard is looked after by an APMC set up under the State Act.

(b) to (d) As per the decision of the National Develoment Council (NDC) the Centrally Sponsored Schemes for development of markets have been transferred to the State sector w.e.f. 1-4-1992.

Implementation of old *age* pension scheme

2430. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state: .

(a) Whether the old age pension scheme funded by Government has been implemented; and

(b) if so, the number of people in each State who got old age pension under this scheme during the year 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YER-RANNAIDU): (a) and (b) The National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS) is being implemented throughout the country since 15.8.1995. During 1996-97, 4381712 persons have benefited under this scheme. A Statement showing the number of beneficiaries benefited in each State durin,? 1996-97 is given in the Statement. *(See* below).

Statement

SCHEME: NOAPS
YEAR: 1996-97

Sr. No.	States/UTs	No. of Benef.
1	Andhra Pradesh	514946
2	Arunachal Pradesh	278
3	Assam	44393
4	Bihar	652872
5	Goa	1006
6	Gujarat	102575
7	Haryana	37700
8	Himachal Pradesh	10657
9	J &K	22719
10	Karnataka	692263
11	Kerala	77169
12	Madhya Pradesh	507931
13	Maharashtra	40983
14	Manipur	1971
15	Meghalaya	4435
16	Mizoram	1204
17	Nagaland	2074
18	Orissa	280760
19	Punjab	35429
20	Rajasthan	53176
21	Sikkim	800
22	Tamilnadu	297636
23	Tripura	5987
24	Uttar Pradesh	697828
25	West Bengal	282639
26	A&N Islands	6
27	Chandigarh	NR
28	D&N Haveli	286
29	Daman & Diu	138
30	NCT Delhi	10253
31	Lakshadweep	98
32	Pondicherry	1500
	Total	4381712

NR : Not Reported